

## **Abstract**

### **Contribution of the Lisbon Treaty to the protection of human rights in the European Union**

The aim of this thesis is to analyze the changes brought by the Lisbon Treaty to the protection of human rights in the European Union. The author focuses on two key areas:

1, **The Charter of Fundamental Rights** has become legally binding and thus enforceable document by the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty. The author outlines how the agenda of the protection of human rights has grown to become the Union's major theme, and what preceded it, the Union now has its own catalog of rights. The author describes the systematics of the Charter and the reasons why countries like Great Britain, Poland and the Czech Republic consequently negotiated an exception to its applicability.

2, **The possibility of accession of the EU as a whole to the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of 1950**, a significant human rights document of Council of Europe. If indeed such a step was taken, it would become the Union's 48th Party to the Convention in addition to 47 member states of the Council of Europe and in this context the question arises, what would be the future relationship of the ECJ and the Court of Human Rights.

Keywords: European Union, Lisbon Treaty, the Charter of Fundamental Rights, European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.